



U. S. FOREST SERVICE

RESEARCH NOTE LS-8

LAKE STATES FOREST EXPERIMENT STATION • U. S. DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

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1962 Forest Tree Seed Crop Averages Fair in the Lake States

The 1962 forest tree seed crop in general was below that of 1960 but otherwise better than for any other year since 1955, according to observations made at field centers of the Lake States Forest Experiment Station (see table on reverse side). Although one or more species had crop failures in each locality reported upon, crops for most species were fair to good. Compared to 1961, seed production was better in every locality but North Dakota. On the average, production was best in northern Minnesota and diminished steadily to the east.

In northern Minnesota quaking aspen and northern white-cedar produced bumper crops. Most other species had fair to good crops except for eastern white pine and yellow birch (poor) and red pine, bur oak, and northern pin oak (failure).

Fair to good crops prevailed for most species in northeastern Wisconsin, but that of white pine was poor and those of red pine, white ash, and black ash were failures.

In central Upper Michigan all species had fair to good crops except eastern hemlock, sugar maple, yellow birch, and black ash, which had crop failures.

The only conifers to produce fair to good crops in Lower Michigan were jack pine, eastern hemlock, and northern white-cedar. Crops of all others were poor or failures. Many deciduous species also had seed crops that failed or were poor. Exceptions were the aspens, white oak, northern red oak, black oak (in the southern half), shagbark hickory, black walnut, butternut, and black cherry (most of which had good crops) and American elm which had a bumper crop in the south half of the Peninsula (it was poor in the north half).

In north-central North Dakota all species had fair to good seed crops except Siberian elm and green ash (poor) and hackberry and bur oak (failure). This is the fifth successive year that the hackberry seed crop has failed.

Most tree seed collectors are interested chiefly in the pines and spruces. For the pines 1962 generally was poor to fair. For the spruces, it was fair to good except in Lower Michigan (poor). Most production of value to some wildlife species was generally fair to good, except in some localities of Lower Michigan where it was poor.

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TABLE 1. — *Forest tree seed crops in the Lake States, 1962*

| Species | Estimated percentage of a full crop ¹ in — | | | | |
|----------------------|---|------------------------|------------------------|-----------------------------------|----------------------------|
| | Northern Minnesota | Northeastern Wisconsin | Central Upper Michigan | Lower Peninsula Michigan | North-central North Dakota |
| Red pine | 7 | 7 | 50 | 7 | ² -- |
| Eastern white pine | 25 | 25 | 50 | 7 | -- |
| Jack pine | 50 | 50 | -- | 50 | -- |
| Ponderosa pine | -- | -- | -- | -- | 75 |
| White spruce | 75 | 50 | 50 | 25 | -- |
| Black spruce | 75 | 50 | 75 | 25 | -- |
| Balsam fir | 75 | 75 | 75 | 25 | -- |
| Eastern hemlock | -- | 75 | 7 | 50 | -- |
| Northern white-cedar | 95 | 75 | 50 | 75 | -- |
| Tamarack | 50 | -- | -- | 25 | -- |
| Sugar maple | 50 | 50 | 7 | 7 | -- |
| Red maple | -- | 75 | 75 | 25 | -- |
| Boxelder | -- | -- | -- | -- | 50 |
| American beech | -- | -- | 75 | 7 | -- |
| Basswood | 75 | 75 | 50 | 25 | -- |
| Yellow birch | 25 | 75 | 7 | -- | -- |
| Paper birch | 75 | 75 | -- | 25 | -- |
| Eastern hophornbeam | -- | -- | -- | 25 | -- |
| Quaking aspen | 95 | 75 | -- | 75 | -- |
| Bigtooth aspen | 75 | 50 | -- | 75 | -- |
| Balsam poplar | 75 | -- | -- | -- | -- |
| American elm | -- | 75 | 75 | ⁴ 25-- ³ 95 | 50 |
| Siberian elm | -- | -- | -- | -- | 25 |
| Hackberry | -- | -- | -- | -- | 7 |
| White ash | -- | 7 | -- | 7 | -- |
| Green ash | -- | -- | -- | -- | 25 |
| Black ash | -- | 7 | 7 | -- | -- |
| Bur oak | 7 | -- | -- | -- | 7 |
| White oak | -- | -- | -- | ³ 50-- ⁴ 75 | -- |
| Black oak | -- | -- | -- | ⁴ 25-- ³ 75 | -- |
| Northern pin oak | 7 | -- | -- | 25 | -- |
| Northern red oak | 50 | 50 | 75 | ⁴ 50-- ³ 75 | -- |
| Shagbark hickory | -- | -- | -- | 75 | -- |
| Black walnut | -- | -- | -- | 75 | -- |
| Butternut | -- | -- | -- | 75 | -- |
| Black cherry | -- | -- | -- | 50 | -- |
| Chokecherry | -- | -- | -- | -- | 75 |
| American plum | -- | -- | -- | -- | 50 |
| Russian-olive | -- | -- | -- | -- | 75 |
| Caragana | -- | -- | -- | -- | 50 |

¹ Percentage of a full crop classified as 0-15, failure; 16-35, poor; 36-60, fair; 61-90, good; and 91-100, bumper.

² A dash (--) signifies no report on this species.

³ Southern half of Lower Peninsula.

⁴ Northern half of Lower Peninsula.

